

Message Text

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12
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 EB-07

SAJ-01 TRSE-00 /062 W
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R 161611Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3269
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

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E O 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR, EFIN, GE, GW
SUBJ: GDR REACTS TO CDU CREDIT EMBARGO THREAT

1. A BRIEF ADN ITEM IN THE EAST GERMAN PRESS SEPTEMBER 16 REACTS TO A WEST GERMAN CDU CAMPAIGN PLEDGE TO INSTITUTE A CREDIT EMBARGO AGAINST THE GDR IF ELECTED. ACCORDING TO THE EAST GERMAN ITEM, HELMUT KOHL IS QUOTED IN THE WEST GERMAN PRESS AS SAYING THAT IN THE EVENT OF A CDU ELECTION VICTORY, KOHL WOULD USE A CREDIT EMBARGO TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE GDR. THE EAST GERMAN NEWS ITEM SAYS THE REACTION OF "LEADING CIRCLES OF THE GDR" IS THAT KOHL DOES NOT SEEM TO UNDERSTAND THE CONSEQUENCES OF SUCH ACTIONS. IF HE WERE ACTUALLY TO PROCEED IN SUCH A FASHION TO "BREAK CONTRACTS AND ARRANGEMENTS" WITH THE GDR, THE GDR WOULD REACT, AND HAS NUMEROUS TOOLS AT ITS DISPOSAL WITH WHICH TO DO SO.

2. COMMENT: HAVING LET SIMILAR STATEMENTS IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS BY OTHER CDU SPOKESMEN GO BY WITHOUT COMMENT, THE EAST GERMANS APPARENTLY FEEL THEY HAVE TO RESPOND TO KOHL'S TAKING UP THE ECONOMIC SANCTIONS THEME. THE FORM AND CONTENT OF THE GDR REPLY ARE FAIRLY LOW-KEY. IT IS CLEARLY MEANT, HOWEVER, TO SUGGEST TO THE CDU
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AND ITS BACKERS IN WEST GERMAN TRADE AND INDUSTRY THAT

THE GDR IS IN A POSITION TO RESPOND TO WESTERN ECONOMIC
SANCTIONS IN A FASHION DETRIMENTAL TO THE INTERESTS
OF THOUSANDS OF WEST GERMAN FIRMS PROFITING FROM
INNER-GERMAN TRADE.COOPER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, CREDIT, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, POLITICAL PARTIES, ELECTION CAMPAIGNS, EMBARGOES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BERLIN06712
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760350-1169
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760955/aaaabutp.tel
Line Count: 65
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <19 AUG 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GDR REACTS TO CDU CREDIT EMBARGO THREAT
TAGS: PFOR, EFIN, GC, GE, CDU, (KOHL, HELMUT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006